Listing of the Claims

Claims 1-14 have been cancelled.

15. (Currently Amended) A servo write method for magnetic tape, the method comprising the steps of:

passing the tape over a substantially planar head surface having a leading edge, the leading edge being disposed adjacent to the head surface such that the tape contacts the leading edge before passing over the head surface, the leading edge being rounded so as to form an air bearing between the head surface and the tape; and

using the head to write servo position code onto the tape[.];

wherein the head comprises;

first and second ferrite structures;

a non-magnetic material between the first and second ferrite structures to form a spacer, and thereby produce a ferrite-nonmagnetic-ferrite arrangement; and

a layer of magnetic material having at least one magnetic gap supported over the non-magnetic material to form the magnetic pattern for writing a portion of a servo pattern to the tape.

16. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein [the rounding of the leading edge is accomplished through a selected one or more of blending, grinding machining, and faceting to the head surface.] a radius of the leading edge spanning an angle having a magnitude of between 5-15 degrees.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 15, comprising [the] a step of passing the tape over a trailing edge, the trailing edge being disposed adjacent to the head surface such that the tape passes over the trailing edge [prior to] after passing over the head surface, the trailing edge being rounded.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 17, wherein [the rounding of the trailing edge is accomplished through a selected one or more of blending, grinding, machining, and faceting from the head surface] a radius of the trailing edge spanning an angle having a magnitude of between 5-15 degrees.

Claims 19-28 (Canceled)